

House of Representatives

STATE OF IOWA
STATEHOUSE
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

March 1, 2012

Attorney General Miller,

On February 27, 2012, the Iowa Board of Regents voted 8-0, with one abstention, to follow University of Northern Iowa President Ben Allen's recommendation to close Malcolm Price Laboratory School. At that meeting, questions were raised about the authority of the Board of Regents to take that specific action.

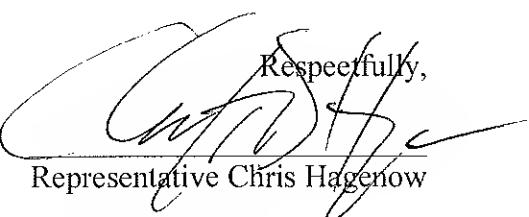
As members of the Iowa General Assembly, we the undersigned, specifically request that the Attorney General issue his opinion whether the General Assembly retains the sole authority to close Malcolm Price Laboratory School as a K-12 facility under Iowa Code Section 256G. Alternatively, does the Board of Regents governing authority, under Iowa Code Section 254G.4, extend to closing the school as a K-12 facility?

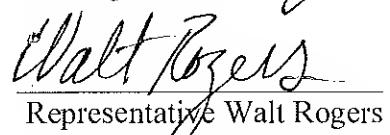
At the aforementioned meeting of February 27, Regent Bob Downer also made a motion to seek a similar opinion of the Attorney General. According to news reports, his request was made, not only based on the open question of legality, but also based on concerns about the speed with which this decision was made and rushed through the process.

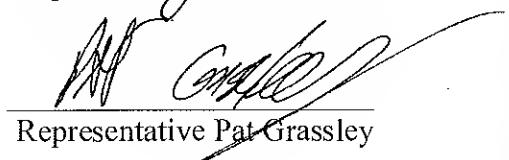
In this era of openness and transparency of Government, we agree with Regent Downer's objections. Therefore, we believe that it is in the best interests of Iowans to have the Attorney General render his opinion on this matter.

It is our request that you render an opinion as quickly as possible, since this is a time sensitive issue that must be dealt with during this General Assembly.

We look forward to your response.


Respectfully,
Representative Chris Hagenow


Representative Walt Rogers


Representative Pat Grassley